2007-05087/

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

Canada Expresses Serious Concern About Iran's Resumption of Uranium Enrichment-Related Activities

January 12, 2006
No. 3

The Government of Canada today issued the following statement regarding Iran's resumption of uranium enrichment-related activities:

"Canada is deeply concerned by Iran's unilateral and unwarranted decision to resume uranium enrichment-related activities, which it had agreed to suspend in November 2004 as part of a negotiated agreement with France, Germany and the United Kingdom (known as the European trio).

"Iran's recent actions and past non-compliance with its obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty are now clearly a matter of international peace and security that is within the competence of the United Nations Security Council.

"Canada supports the call for an extraordinary meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors to report the matter to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) at the earliest opportunity. The Government of Canada deeply regrets that Iran's confrontational actions have led to an impasse in the European trio's diplomatic efforts and urges Iran to fully suspend all uranium enrichment activities, including conversion, without further delay in order to address the international community's serious concerns about its nuclear program. The involvement of the UNSC is now necessary in order to reinforce the authority of the IAEA and the credibility of the multilateral nuclear non-proliferation system, and to help facilitate a diplomatic solution, to which Canada remains committed.

"This latest step by Iran constitutes further defiance of successive IAEA resolutions and a violation of Iran's commitments to the European trio. It is also particularly worrisome given Iran's resumption of uranium conversion last August and its rejection of a comprehensive long-term offer from France, Germany and the United Kingdom. Canada fully supported the adoption, last September, of the IAEA resolution finding Iran in non-compliance with its safeguards requirements."

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Date Modified: 2006-01-12